



## ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1021 NORTH GRAND AVENUE EAST, P.O. BOX 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276

THOMAS V. SKINNER, DIRECTOR

MICHAEL J. MCCABE

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DIVISION OF LEGAL COUNSEL

1021 North Grand Avenue East

P.O. Box 19276

Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

(217) 782-5544

FAX (217) 782-9807

Date 08/22/02TO: Joseph A. MalekAGENCY/COMPANY: USEPAFAX NUMBER: 312-886-0753NUMBER OF PAGES - INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 9

ANY TROUBLE WITH TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL (217)782-5544

NOTES:

Joe -

9:15 am

If not clear, call me - I will resend  
then put them in the mail.

Mike

RECEIVED  
CHICAGO OFFICE

JUL 22 1975

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

July 21, 1975

Field Operations Section, DWPC  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
2121 West Taylor Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60612

Attention: Mr. Benn J. Leland,  
Manager, Region II

Gentlemen:

Re: Oil Spill to St. Joseph Creek  
CW #81

RECEIVED  
Field Operations Section

JUL 25 1975

Environmental Protection Agency  
State of Illinois

We are submitting this reply to your letter of July 10th, using the same sequence to the questions you asked:

1. The oil spill occurred on or about the evening of Saturday, July 5, 1975 during a rain storm. (For more details, see answer to question 3.)
2. The oil was a quench oil used in heat treating having a composition as follows:

Gravity	31.5
Flash Point	360° F
Viscosity	110 S.U.S. at 110° F
Pour Point	15° F

Approximately 7,000 gallons leaked from a storage tank into an excavation surrounding it; some of this oil, possibly as much as half of it, entered St. Joseph Creek.

3. (a) Rexnord Bearing Division is currently adding to its plant in Downers Grove. Part of this project included installing a new 10,000 gallon quench oil storage tank. The contractor planned to change over to the usage of the new quench oil storage tank during the weekend beginning on the 4th of July. The new tank had been lowered into the ground where it was to be installed and was partially filled with oil as a ballast.
- (b) To seal the pipes leading from the tank inflatable rubber balls were inserted in the openings. Before installing the balls, the contractor checked with the manufacturer, Cherne Industrial, Inc., Edina, Minnesota 55436, and was assured that the balls were proper for this application.

Field Operations Section, DWPC

Page Two

- (c) The balls were inflated to 30 lbs. pressure with dry nitrogen from a 2,000 lb. tank, after which oil was pumped into the tank. When the transfer was complete, the balls and pressure were checked again to insure they were sealing properly. The crew left the jobsite at 10:30 A.M. July 4th.
  - (d) Sometime later, when no one was present, one of the balls must have ruptured and the nitrogen tank tried to keep the pressure in the ball at 30 lbs. When the nitrogen ran out, all of the balls collapsed and the oil leaked out of the tank into the adjacent excavation.
  - (e) It was later discovered that in the process of excavating the pit for the quench oil tank, an adjacent storm sewer line was damaged. Thus as the rain filled the open pit during the evening of July 5th after the quench tank seal failure, the oil-water mixture got into the storm sewer and spilled into St. Joseph Creek.
4. (a) A temporary containment reservoir approximately 30' x 40' x 10' was excavated between St. Joseph Creek and the Rexnord storm sewer to eliminate direct discharge.
- (b) All pools of oily water in the marsh area between the storm sewer and the St. Joseph Creek were manually scooped up and removed in 50 gallon drums.
- (c) A new 8' wide earth drainage ditch was constructed to avoid contact and leaching of any oil into St. Joseph Creek during possible subsequent rainfall.
- (d) Under suggestion and direction of Mr. Ralph Coons of E.P.A., a local firm, Browning Ferris Industries specializing in oil spill cleanup, was immediately dispatched to the job site and during all daylight hours, an oil boom and straw were used to contain and remove oil from the DuPage River. The cleanup operation continued until 6:00 P.M. July 8th when Mr. Coons advised that for all practical purposes the major portion of spilled oil was removed from the river and that cleanup could be stopped.
5. The following action was taken to prevent recurrence:
- (a) The storm sewer break was repaired to prevent further leakage into the storm sewer.
- (b) The changeover of the oil system was completed without further problems and it was leak tested.
- (c) The entire pit surrounding the tank was filled in and the job completed as planned.

Field Operations Section, ONPG

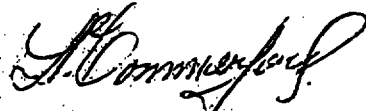
Page Three

- (d) The storm sewer was washed out. All of the wash water was confined and oil absorbent pads removed all oil from this flush water. Therefore no subsequent rainfall will contain oil in any discharge from this storm sewer.
- (e) Oil absorbent material and a floating boom are in storage at the plant and are immediately available.

5. Yes. See answer to question 4.

We hope we have fully answered the questions contained in your letter, but if further information is required, please let us know.

Very truly yours,



L. P. Commerford  
President

f

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION

File # Reynold, Richard as Div. Code # Env 31  
D. Brown Assigned by                     

Compl. source: John Zide, 968-5545 Recd by: ETL  
 Address: Waukegan RECEIVED date: July 6, 1975  
 P.O. Office:                      Field Operations Section  
 Tel. #                      JUL 24 1975                      Follow-up                     

Environmental Protection Agency  
 Nature of Complaint State of Illinois

Source: Reynold, 2800 Parkview Dr. Grove  
 Location: St. Joseph Co.

Specific Complaint:  
Off. Robert Dept. O.L. Myers, described Zark's report -  
William E. R. DuBois was seen at Maple Ave.  
who turned to St. Joseph Co. to Reynold

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

Investigated by: C. Corley Date: 7/6/75 Time:                     

Report: 7-6-75 (4:50 PM in 7:00?) Mr. L. Comerford was contacted by phone  
from the garage, house at Reynold. He indicated was spilled during building construction  
in the area of the heat treating process building. He & Zark worked this area  
earlier in the day & oil slick was had stopped. The cause of the spill, amount  
of oil etc. were not known. Reynold personnel did not & had no ability to  
do anything to stop the oil or clean it up.

7-7-75: Mr. Lee Kuech of Reynold was contacted by phone - he reported the  
following: (1) About 2500 gal. of light weight Quench oil was spilled from a  
tank in an old former underground storage tank. (2) The spill occurred on  
either July 4, PM or July 5 AM, and was first noticed on July 5. (3) He &  
Bros. ALC was in the process of removing the old tank, transferring the  
oil from the old to new tank & repairing piping of new tank. (4) The piping  
plugs in the new tank leaked the oil into the excavation. (5) The oil  
seeped into the ground, entered the plant property etc. (6) The spill  
discharged into St. Joseph Co. (7) Beach was informed that spill had  
been reported to St. Joseph Co. at 11:30 AM and action taken to clean it up.

RECEIVED

NOV 28 1973

## SECTION 401 CERTIFICATION

REVIEW BY ENFORCEMENT SERVICES SECTION  
DEPT. OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Applicant: Rex Chainbelt Bearing Div. IL 070 OX3 2 720498

Location: Downers Grove, discharge to St. Joseph's Creek

	No	Yes (date)	Attached
Board Order		5-23-72	
Pending Variance or Enforcement	X		
Referral	X		

Comments on proposed permit:

① Cyanide discharge order - cease +  
desist plus penalty. 5/23/72

② 10 mg/l Oil & Grease ✓ } outfall #001  
15 mg/l Suspended Solids ✓

③ Sampling location "at end of storm sewer."  
Is storm sewer on Rex property?

RECEIVED  
CHICAGO OFFICE

FEB 28 1974

PERMIT SECTION  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

By

LN 11/27/73

November 27, 1973

15170002399



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

309 WEST WASHINGTON STREET SUITE 300

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606

DAVID R. CURRIE, CHAIRMAN  
SAMUEL R. ALDRICH  
JACOB D. DUMELLE  
RICHARD J. KISSEL  
SAMUEL T. LAWTON, JR.

TELEPHONE  
312-793-1620

May 23, 1972

Mr. Morris Spector  
110 S. Dearborn  
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Edward P. Armstrong  
4701 W. Greenfield Avenue  
West Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212

Mr. Thomas Scheuneman  
Deputy Director  
E.P.A.  
2200 Churchill Road  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

PCB72-86  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

v.

REX CHAINBELT, INC.

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed please find certified copies of the Opinion and Order of the Board adopted on May 23, 1972 for the above entitled case.

Very truly yours,

*Christan L. Moffett*  
Christan L. Moffett  
Clerk of the Board

CLM  
enc.

cc: D. Landgraf  
H. Sheldon  
T. Immel  
L. Eaton  
G. Gurnett  
J. Anderson  
J. Fornoris  
B. Pye

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
May 23, 1972

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY )  
 )  
 ) #72-86  
 v. )  
 )  
 REX CHAINBELT, INC. )

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (BY SAMUEL T. LAWTON, JR.)

Complaint was filed by the Environmental Protection Agency against Rex Chainbelt, Inc., alleging that Respondent, in the operation of its Downers Grove bearing manufacturing facility, on May 27, 1971, permitted the escape of cyanide and/or cyanogen compounds so as to violate Sanitary Water Board Regulation SWB-5, and further, that on May 27, 1971, Respondent caused or allowed the discharge of effluent containing cyanide and heavy metals into a storm sewer which flows into the St. Joseph's Creek so as to cause, or tend to cause, water pollution, in violation of Section 12(a) of the Environmental Protection Act ("Act").

A penalty in the maximum statutory amount and the entry of such other and further Orders as may be proper were requested of the Board. A stipulation and proposal for settlement was entered into between the parties, which acknowledges that on or about May 27, 1971, Respondent permitted cyanide and heavy metals to escape from its plant into a drainage ditch on its property which flows into St. Joseph's Creek. Representatives of the Agency and Respondent took samples of the flow in the ditch on May 27, which analysis is appended to the stipulation and which notes the presence of cyanide and heavy metals, particularly copper, cadmium, nickel, zinc, chromium and iron in the ditch. Investigation by Respondent disclosed that a leak had occurred in the copper plating tank running to the floor drain and ultimately into a line connected with the drainage ditch.

On May 28, 1971, Respondent blocked the floor drain line leading to the drainage ditch and installed a holding tank to contain any future spillage. The plating tanks were replaced with polyethylene lined fiberglass tanks equipped with alarms to guard against undetected leaks. Respondent contracted for a survey of the plant plumbing and made corrections limiting future sources of water pollution. Respondent is considering the possibility of adopting different manufacturing technique which will eliminate the present plating room activities.



Periodic sampling of the flow into the ditch subsequent to May 27, 1971 through February 14, 1972, disclose an absence of cyanide in the effluent. Subsequent sampling by the Agency indicates an absence of cyanide and satisfactory heavy metal levels.

The terms of settlement provide that Respondent admits that the violations complained of did, in fact, take place as set forth in the stipulation, but that it is now in compliance with all provisions of the Act and all rules and regulations of the Act pursuant thereto. Respondent agrees to the payment of a penalty in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the violations aforesaid, and agrees not to repeat the violations admitted. The Agency will be given the right of reasonable inspection of Respondent's facilities in accordance with Section 4(d) of the Act. The stipulation, both in the undertakings of the Respondent and the amount of penalty, appear satisfactory and we will enter our Order accordingly.

This opinion constitutes the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Board.

IT IS THE ORDER of the Pollution Control Board:

1. Rex Chainbelt, Inc., Respondent, shall cease and desist the discharge of cyanide and heavy metals, in violation of the Rules and Regulations of the Pollution Control Board and the Environmental Protection Act.
2. Penalty in the amount of \$2,000.00 is assessed against Rex Chainbelt, Inc. for violation of SWB-5 and Section 12(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, payable to the State of Illinois and sent to the Environmental Protection Agency, Fiscal Services Division, 2200 Churchill Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62706.

I, Christan Moffett, Clerk of the Pollution Control Board, certify that the above Opinion and Order was adopted on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 1971 by a vote of 4-0.

